

Amendments to the Specification:

On page 1, prior to the first paragraph which begins on line 3, please insert the following:

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

On page 1, prior to the second paragraph which begins on line 6, please insert the following:

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

On page 1, prior to the paragraph which begins on line 21, please insert the following:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

On page 4, please delete the paragraphs which begin on line 15 and end on line 31.

On page 4, prior to the paragraph which begins on line 31, please insert the following:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

On page 5, prior to the paragraph which begins on line 11, please insert the following title and subsequent paragraphs:

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

In accordance with a preferred embodiment of the device of the invention, in the case of a large amount of data and/or information to be transferred, a unit selects multiple, mutually independent communication paths in order to transfer the data and/or information in parallel. This embodiment allows even large amounts of data to be quickly transmitted to the respective addressee.

An advantageous development of the device of the invention provides converters, which are assigned to the units, such that the units can communicate with one another via

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different types of transmission. These converters can also be sensors which support different types of transmission at the various interfaces.

In accordance with an advantageous development of the device of the invention, either connecting cables or fiber optic cables, or ways of so-called wireless data- and/or information transfer are used as ways of communication.